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4. That when the reports of the several Committees shall hereafter be presented to the Society, such disposition and action shall be had in relation thereto as shall be judged proper.

Stated Meeting, October 20.

Present, twenty-eight members.

Dr. BACHE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were received and read:—

From the Librarian of Brown University, acknowledging the receipt of the 26th and 27th numbers of the Proceedings: and—

From S. S. Haldeman, Esq., dated Columbia, Pa., 4th Oct. 1843, transmitting a copy of the sixth number of his Monograph of Fresh Water Univalves.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Proceedings of the Geological Society of London. Vol. IV. Part 1.

No. 93. 1843. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Title and Index to the Fifth Volume of the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.—*From the Society.*

The Transactions of the Linnean Society of London. Vol. XIX. Part Second. London, 1843. 4to.—*From the Society.*

List of the Linnean Society of London. 1843. 4to.—*From the same.*

Proceedings of the Linnean Society of London. Nos. 15 to 18, inclusive. 1842-43. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Vol. XV. Part III. Containing Papers read during the Session 1842-43. Edinburgh, 1843. 4to.—*From the Society.*

Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, 1842-43. Nos. 21, 22. 8vo.—*From the same.*

The American Journal of Science and Arts. Vol. XLV. No. 2. October, 1843. New Haven, October 5, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Editors.*

- Journal of the Franklin Institute. Third Series. Vol. VI. October, 1843. No. 4. 8vo.—*From Dr. R. M. Patterson.*
- Lectures on the Wave-Theory of Light. By the Rev. H. Lloyd, D.D., F.R.S., &c. &c. Printed by order of the Board of Erasmus Smith. Dublin, 1841. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- A Monograph of the Fresh Water Univalve Mollusca of the United States, including Notices of Species in other parts of North America. By S. Stehman Haldeman. Philadelphia, January, 1843. No. 6. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- The Foulahs of Central Africa, and the African Slave Trade. By W. B. Hodgson, of Savannah, Georgia. 1843. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Catalogue of Books in the Library of Brown University. Providence, R. I., 1826. 8vo.—*From Robert Hare, M.D.*
- Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts: Reports for the Years 1841 and 1842. London, Office of the Society. 8vo.—*From the Rev. Benjamin Dorr, D.D.*
- A Historical Account of Christ Church, Philadelphia, from its Foundation, A. D. 1695, to A. D. 1841. By the Rev. Benjamin Dorr, D.D. Philadelphia, 1841. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Abstract of a Paper read before the American Philosophical Society, May 20, 1843, entitled, "Descriptions of some New Fossil Shells from the Tertiary of Petersburg, Virginia." By Henry C. Lea.—*From the Author.*

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

- Astronomische Nachrichten. Nos. 483 to 486, inclusive. August, 1843. 4to. Title and Index to Vol. XX. Altona.
- Scientific Memoirs, selected from the Transactions of Foreign Academies of Science, &c. Edited by Richard Taylor, F.S.A. Vol. III. Part XII. August, 1843. London. 8vo.
- Niles' National Register. From September, 1842, to March, 1843. Vol. 63. From March, 1843, to September, 1843. Vol. 64. Folio.

The Committees to whom were referred Prof. Stephen Alexander's communication, "On the Physical Phenomena attending Solar Eclipses,"—Prof. Bartlett's communications describing the Astronomical Observatory and Instruments at West Point, and giving an account of observations made there,—Mr. R. C. Taylor's two communications, entitled, "Memoir

on the Character and Prospects of the Copper Region of Gibara, and a Sketch of the Geology of the North-east part of the Island of Cuba," and "Notice of Fossil Arborescent Ferns of the Family of Sigillaria and other Coal Plants exhibited in the Roof and Floor of a Coal Seam in Dauphin County, Penn."—and the communication by Prof. Booth and Mr. Boyé, entitled, "On the Conversion of Benzoic into Hippuric Acid,"—all of which were read at the centennary meeting,—severally reported in favour of the publication of the communications referred to them; and the publication was ordered accordingly.

Dr. Bache announced the decease of Dr. Richard Harlan, a member of the Society, who died at New Orleans on the 30th of September last.

Dr. Mease laid before the Society the Proceedings of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Louisiana, on the occasion of Dr. Harlan's death; and they were read.

Mr. Walker gave a succinct account of the condition of the questions in regard to the orbit of the comet of February, 1843, as left by observations.

He also read an extract from the *Astronomische Nachrichten* of August 12, in which Mr. Clausen, an assistant at the Dorpat observatory, under date of 21st April, 1843, affirms the identity of the comet of February with that of 1668 and 1689; this conclusion coinciding with that announced to the Society by Messrs. Walker and Kendall in May last, and published in the 27th No. of the Proceedings. Mr. Clausen asserts the probable return of the comet in 1865.

Stated Meeting, November 3.

Present, thirty-three members.

Dr. PATTERSON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Professor Wylie, of Indiana University, was introduced as a visiter.

Letters were received and read:—

From the Secretary of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, dated